

Benue Police Neutralize Six Bandits, Arrest Two Suspected Robbers, Kidnapper



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.....As security operatives flood state capital ahead planned protest

The Benue State Police Command on Monday confirmed that its Operation Zenda Joint Task Force (JTF) have neutralized six bandits that have been terrorizing the residents of the Logo Local Government Area of the state.

Besides, the Command said it has arrested two suspected armed robbers as well as a kidnapper and cattle rustler.

The Public Relations Officer of the command, Catherine Sewuese Anene, an ASP, in a statement, said the bandits were camped at Mbavuur ward of Logo local government when the JTF team stormed the camp at the weekend and engaged them in a gun duel.

“During the operation, six bandits were neutralized while others escaped.

“Corpses were recovered and deposited at NKST Ugba morgue while fleeing suspects are still being trailed.

“Items recovered from the scene include; one (1) AK-47 rifle and two (2) locally fabricated short guns loaded with ammunition”.

The command said the suspected armed robber, one Tersoo Dabo ‘m’ aged 22 of Udei village in the Guma local government area was trailed and arrested in connection with robberies along the Makurdi-Lafia road.

It said the suspect confessed to being part of a seven-man gang operating along the highway.

“Further investigation led to the arrest of one Martin Akunu ‘m’ 37years of Udei town, the spiritual leader of the said gang who fortifies them before going out for operations. One locally made double barrel, 162 balls suspected to be local ammunition and gunpowder were found in his possession.

According to the command, the suspected kidnapper and cattle rustler, one Usman Hardo ‘m’ of Keana had been on the wanted list for kidnapping and cattle rustling in Nasarawa state and Guma local government area of Benue state.

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The statement said the investigation was ongoing to arrest other gang members.

The PPRO quoted the state’s Commissioner of Police, CP Hassan Steve Yabanet, as assuring the people of the state of his determination to rid the state of criminality.

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Meanwhile, the command has advised the people not to be scared by the heavy presence of its men across the Makurdi metropolis and warned any hoodlum who intends to cause a breach of peace in the name of protest to steer clear.